

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 MADRID 01922 221050Z

20

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SY-05

USSS-00 COME-00 EB-07 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 /075 W

----- 057877

R 211719Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1364

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MADRID 1922

E.O. 11652: NXA

TAGS: ELAB, PINT, SP

SUBJ: FIRESTONE EXECUTIVE'S BILBAO HOME DEMOLISHED BY
PRESUMED ETA BOMB BLAST

1. ON MARCH 20, A SUMMER HOME OUTSIDE BILBAO OWNED BY SPANISH DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC RELATIONS OF FIRESTONE WAS BLOWN UP IN AN EXPLOSION WHICH ALSO DEMOLISHED ADJOINING HOUSE. THERE WERE NO INJURIES, BUT PROPRIETORS OF ADJOINING HOUSE WERE OBLIGED AT GUNPOINT TO ACCOMPANY THREE UNKNOWN YOUTHS AWAY FROM HOUSE IN CAR PRIOR TO BLAST AND WERE LEFT UNHARMED ON SUBURBAN STREET.

2. FIRESTONE HAS BEEN OBJECT OF A NASTY AND PROTRACTED STRIKE DURING PAST TWO MONTHS WHICH STILL UNRESOLVED. STRIKE, WHICH COMMENCED OVER A COMPLEX OF WAGE DEMANDS AND WORKER REPRESENTATIVITY ISSUES, THEN BECAME EMBITTERED WHEN FIRESTONE FIRST LOCKED OUT AND THEN FIRED 3,500 WORKERS, OR ITS ENTIRE INDUSTRIAL WORK FORCE. WHEN FIRESTONE SUBSEQUENTLY INDICATED WILLINGNESS TO READMIT WORKERS, IT REFUSED TO ADMIT 15 RING-LEADERS. THEREFORE STRIKE HAS CONTINUED WITH WORKERS DEMANDING READMISSION ALL FIRED WORKERS AND FIRESTONE STILL REFUSING WHILE ISSUE HAS GONE TO LABOR COURT FOR RESOLUTION. MEANTIME STRIKE HAS BEEN RELATIVELY EFFECTIVE WITH PERMANENT POLICE GUARD OUTSIDE FACTORY, AND REPORTED THREATS OF INTIMIDATION

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 MADRID 01922 221050Z

TOWARDS THOSE WORKERS WHO HAVE WANTED TO GO BACK TO WORK.

3. COMMENT: INDICATIONS POINT TO ETA AS LIKELY PERPETRATORS OF EXPLOSION AND TEMPORARY KIDNAPPING OF RESIDENTS OF ADJOINING HOUSE. IT APPEARS ETA MIGHT BE SEEKING TO CAPITALIZE ON LONG-SMOLDERING FIRESTONE STRIKE BOTH TO GRAB HEADLINES AGAIN, AFTER A PERIOD OF RELATIVELY LITTLE PRESS ATTENTION, AND ALSO TO SEEK POSSIBLE SUPPORT IN LABOR SPHERE BY INSERTING ITSELF IN LABOR DISPUTE WHERE IT MIGHT ACHIEVE SOME POPULARITY AMONG THE WORKERS, ALTHOUGH THIS IS A DOUBLE-EDGED DANGEROUS TACTIC WHICH COULD BACKFIRE ON ETA.

4. DESPITE STALEMATE OVER LONG-SMOLDERING FIRESTONE STRIKE, ELSEWHERE IN SPAIN THERE HAS BEEN A NOTABLE DIMINUTION IN INTENSITY AND FREQUENCY OF STRIKE ACTIVITY DURING PAST FEW WEEKS. THIS IS NOW PARTICULARLY NOTICEABLE ON EVE OF SPANISH EASTER WEEK WHEN MOST INDUSTRIAL AND OTHER ACITIVITY NORMALLY COMES TO A STANDSTILL.
STABLER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BUSINESSMEN, BOMBING, LABOR STRIKES, LABOR DISPUTES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ellisoob
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MADRID01922
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750101-0090
From: MADRID
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750328/aaaaayud.tel
Line Count: 79
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ellisoob
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13 JUN 2003 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <27 OCT 2003 by ellisoob>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FIRESTONE EXECUTIVE'S BILBAO HOME DEMOLISHED BY PRESUMED ETA BOMB BLAST
TAGS: ELAB, PINT, SP, FIRESTONE
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006